ABSTRACT

The invention provides pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine compounds of formula (I) having a $-C(O)-NH-C(R^4)(R^5)$ -aryl substituent at the 5-position of the pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine ring system wherein at least one of R^4 and R^5 is not a hydrogen atom (H) compound or a salt thereof:

wherein Ar has the sub-formula (x) or (z).

These compounds are useful as inhibitors of PDE4.